



L I F E A N D D E A T H

PROMETHEUS™

1 OF 4

DAN
ABNETT

ANDREA
MUTTI

RAIN
BEREDO

TRAPPED WITH AN
ANGRY GOD!

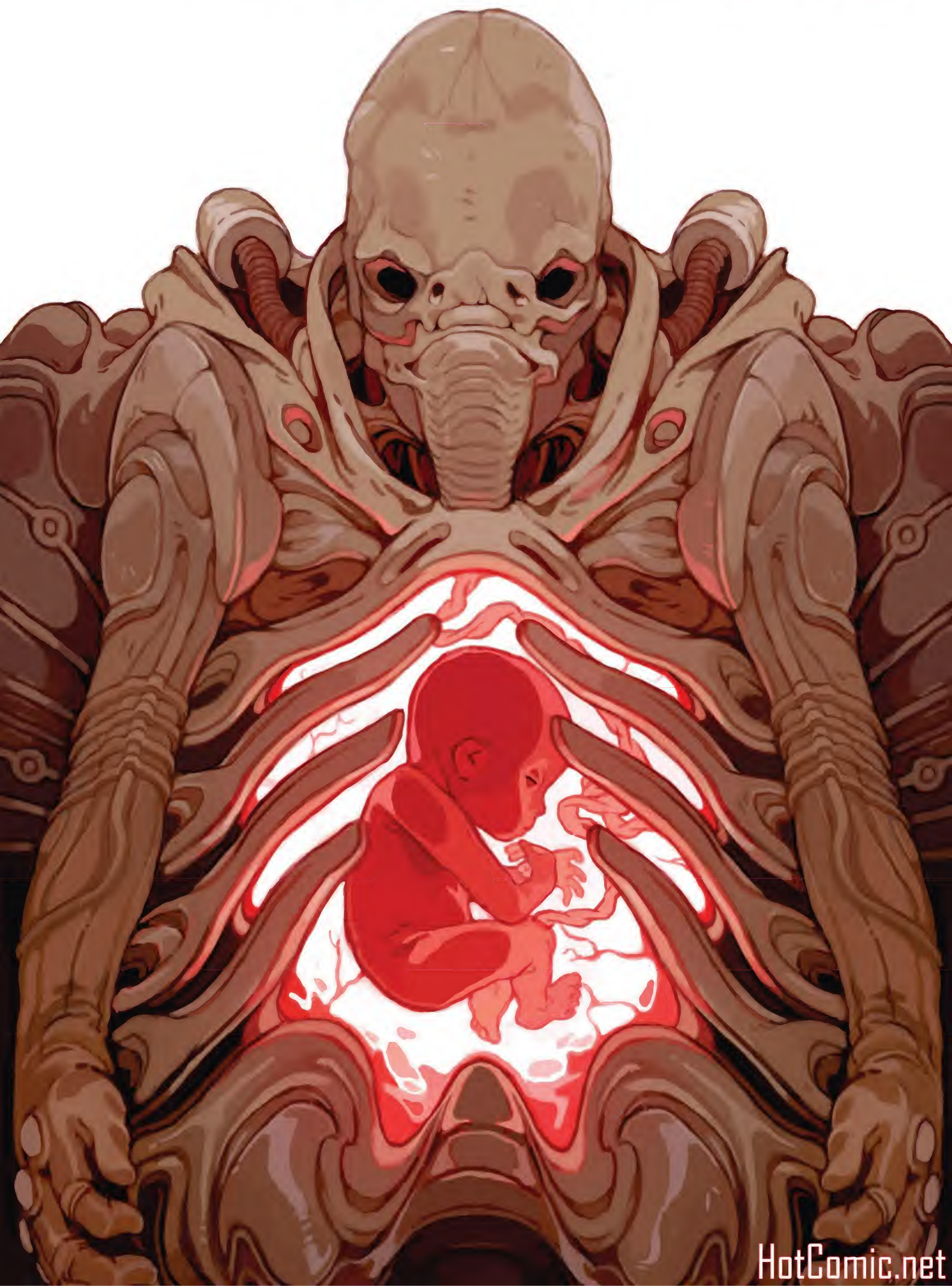


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L I F E A N D D E A T H

PROMETHEUS™





DARK HORSE
PRESENTS
PROMETHEUS

1

DHP

D A R K H O R S E P R E S E N T S



MAN



SYNTHETIC



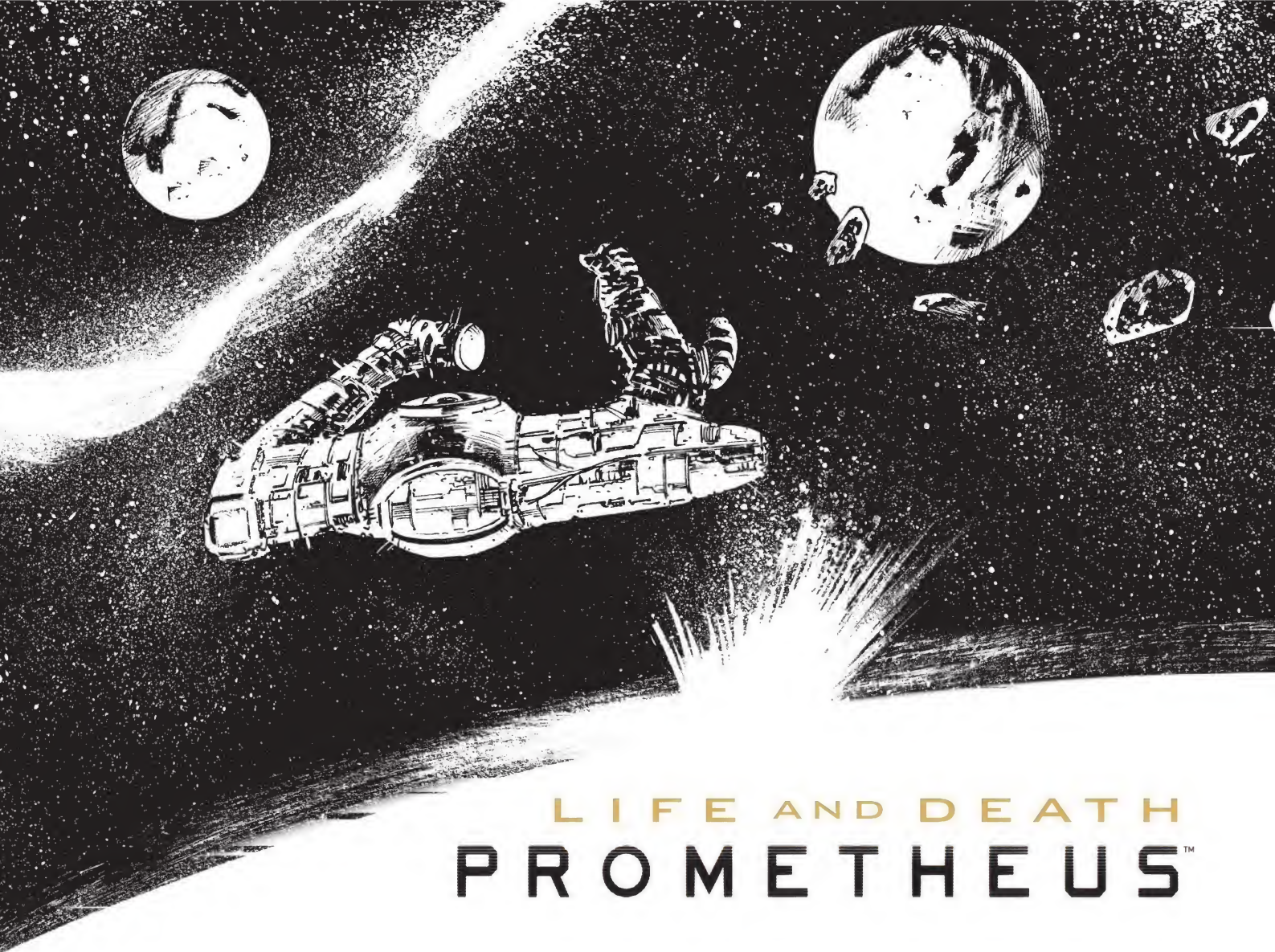
GOD



LIFE AND DEATH

PROMETHEUS™

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LIFE AND DEATH PROMETHEUS™

SCRIPT

DAN ABNETT

ART

ANDREA MUTTI

COLORS

RAIN BEREDO

LETTERING

MICHAEL HEISLER

COVER ART

DAVID PALUMBO

PART FIVE OF SEVENTEEN OF **LIFE AND DEATH**

This story takes place approximately forty-three years after the events in the motion picture *Aliens* (and just over a year after the events in *Fire and Stone*).

Dispatched to Tartarus (LV-797) to investigate unauthorized prospecting on the Weyland-Yutani-owned planet, Captain Paget and her platoon of Colonial Marines discovered three surviving claim jumpers from the Seegson Corporation—and a group of hostile life forms: the Predators.

Also discovered was a huge spacecraft of unknown origin, which Lorimer, the Weyland-Yutani representative embedded with the marines, wanted for his company. A battle ensued between the marines and the Predators over possession of the spacecraft. The marines suffered heavy casualties, but eventually one team of marines was able to secure the ship and take off, while the remainder of the marines made it back to their own ship, the *Hasdrubal*, still in orbit above the contested world . . .

PUBLISHER **MIKE RICHARDSON** EDITOR **RANDY STRADLEY** ASSISTANT EDITOR **FREDDYE MILLER** DESIGNER **SANDY TANAKA**
DIGITAL ART TECHNICIAN **CONLEY SMITH**

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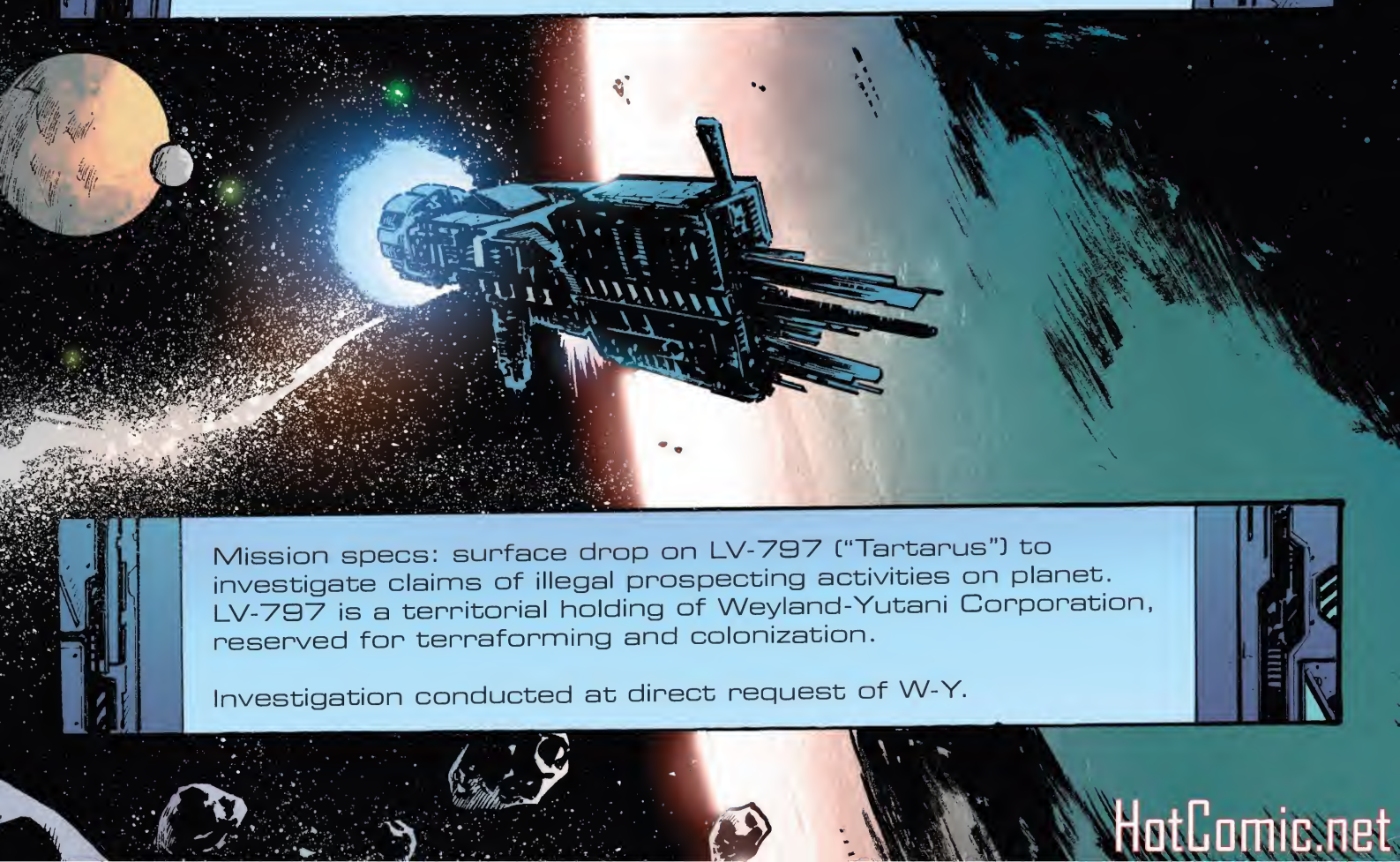
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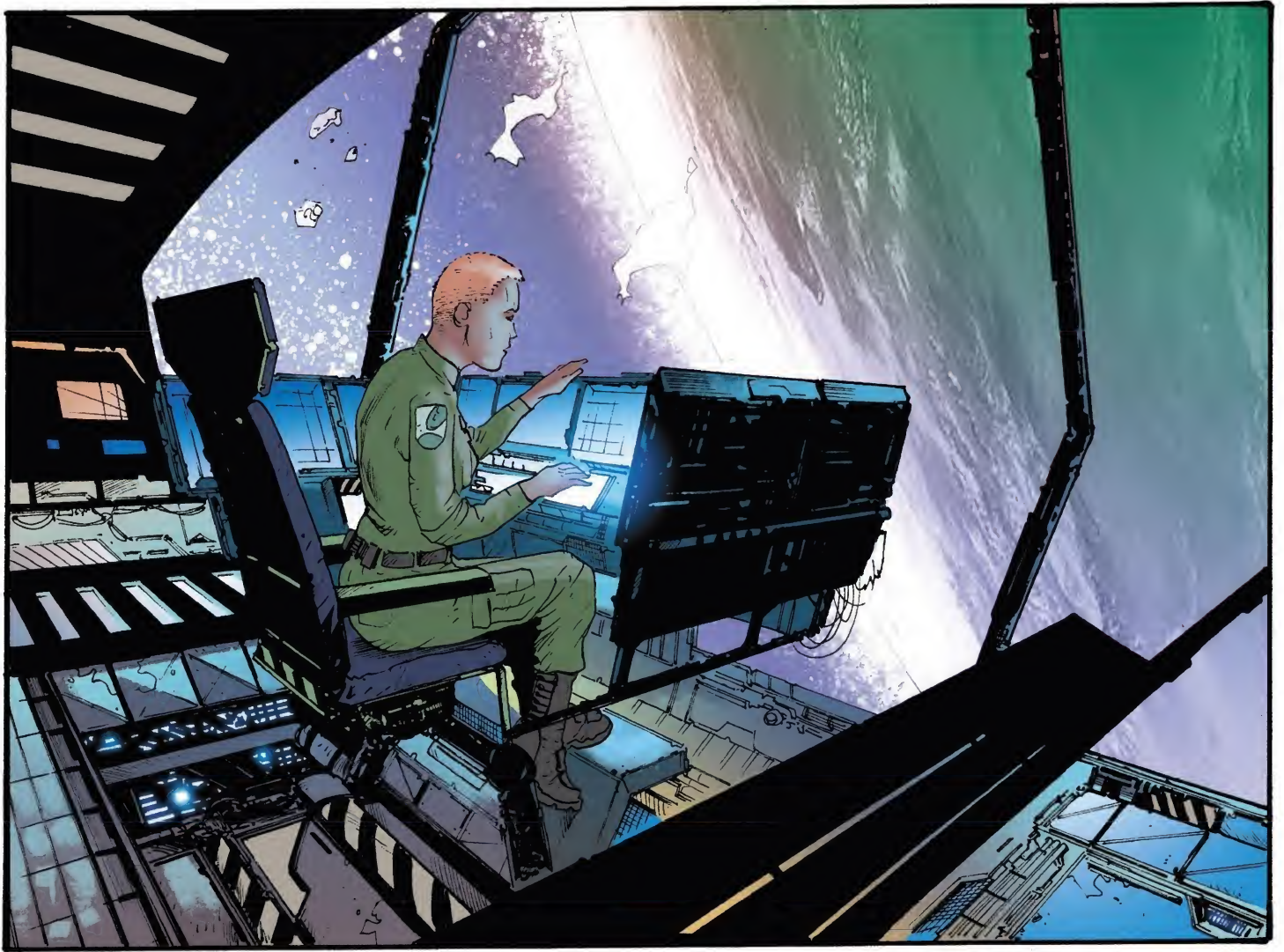
From: Paget, commanding USCM rapid
response vessel HASDRUBAL
To: USCM Operations, Ganymede Station
Status: PRIORITY CLASSIFIED

Message begins:



Mission specs: surface drop on LV-797 ("Tartarus") to
investigate claims of illegal prospecting activities on planet.
LV-797 is a territorial holding of Weyland-Yutani Corporation,
reserved for terraforming and colonization.

Investigation conducted at direct request of W-Y.



Investigation confirmed illegal operations present. Three individuals detained. Investigation interrupted by highly aggressive xenofoms -- species unknown (see attachment). Heavy USCM losses sustained.

Investigation further discovered a massive xenotech vessel (type unknown, see attachment). USCM personnel were able to secure and launch xenotech vessel.



USCM HASDRUBAL now preparing to escort recovered xenotech vessel to Ganymede Station for inspection.

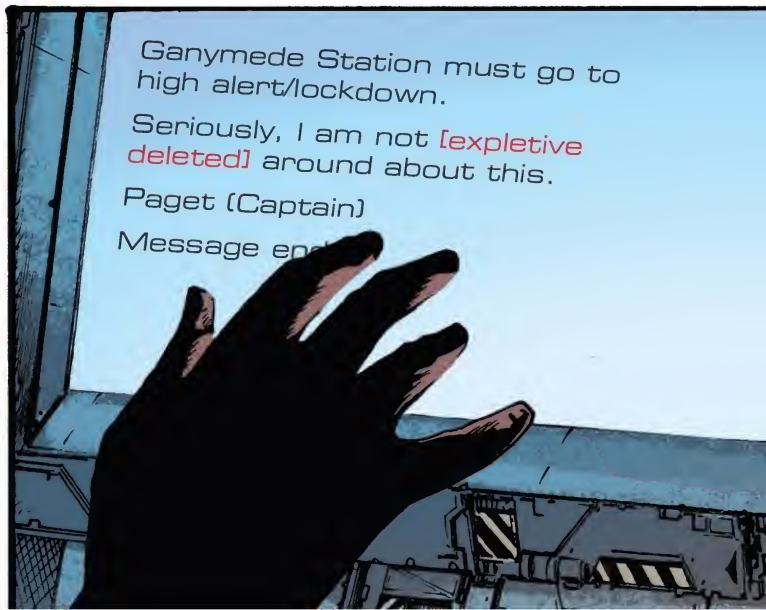
Estimated transit time to you: six weeks. Recommend full preparation for xenotech reception. Operational level alpha. Make available quarantined drydock facility (estimated dimension requirements attached). Alert W-Y PRIORITY.

Ganymede Station must go to high alert/lockdown.

Seriously, I am not ~~expletive~~ around about this.

Paget (Captain)

Message end





ANCANE?

PREPPED FOR TRANSIT, CAPTAIN. ALL SYSTEMS GREEN.

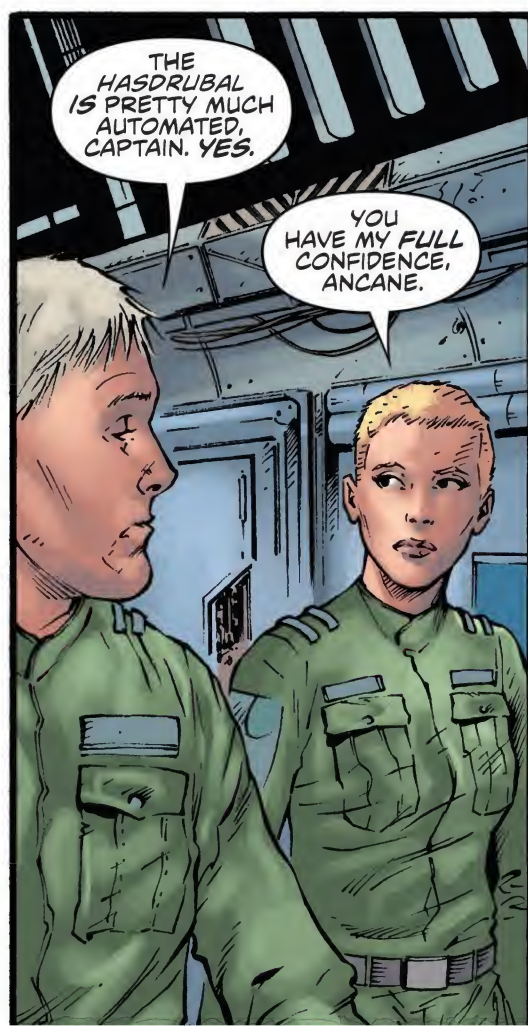
WE'RE READY TO HEAD HOME ON YOUR WORD.



YOU COMFORTABLE WITH FLIGHT DECK MANAGEMENT DUTIES, ANCANE? SINGER USUALLY--

HEY, I'M FULLY QUALIFIED TO DRIVE THIS BOAT. I DON'T NEED A DAMN SYNTHETIC TO SHOW ME HOW TO RUN DRIVES AND NAV.

THE HASDRUBAL'S PRETTY MUCH AUTOMATED, ANCANE.



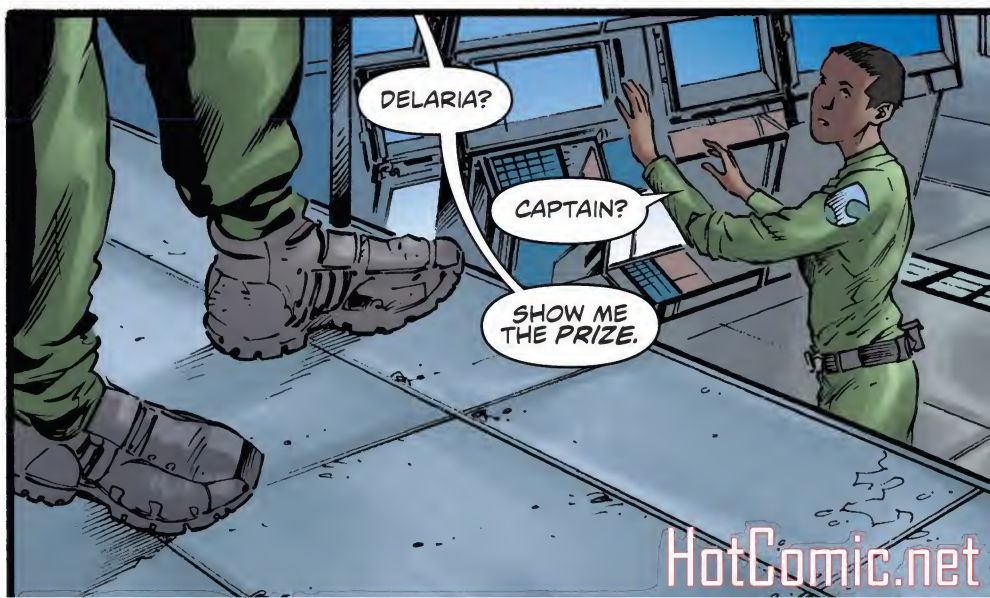
THE HASDRUBAL IS PRETTY MUCH AUTOMATED, CAPTAIN. YES.

YOU HAVE MY FULL CONFIDENCE, ANCANE.



THAT... THAT WAS A REALLY ROUGH OUTING, CAPTAIN. I MEAN--

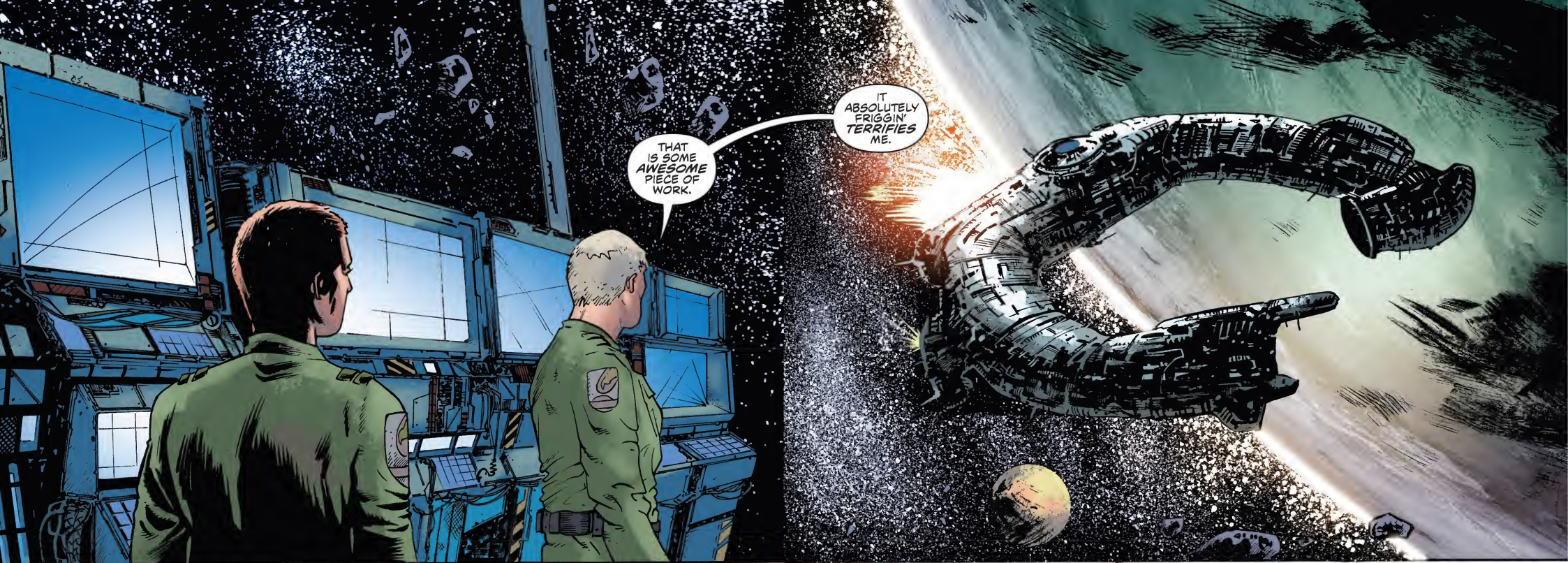
I HOPE IT WAS WORTH IT.



DELARIA?

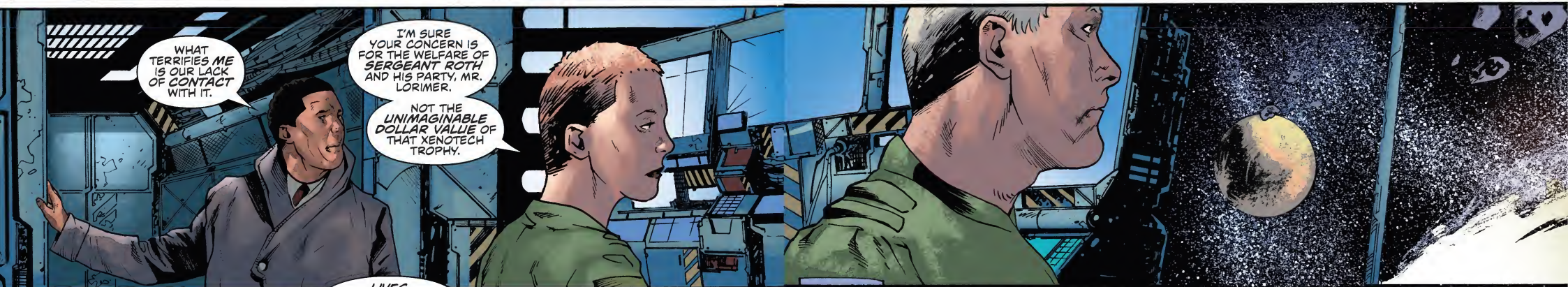
CAPTAIN?

SHOW ME THE PRIZE.



THAT IS SOME AWESOME PIECE OF WORK.

IT ABSOLUTELY FRIGGIN' TERRIFIES ME.



WHAT TERRIFIES ME IS OUR LACK OF CONTACT WITH IT.

I'M SURE YOUR CONCERN IS FOR THE WELFARE OF SERGEANT ROTH AND HIS PARTY, MR. LORIMER.

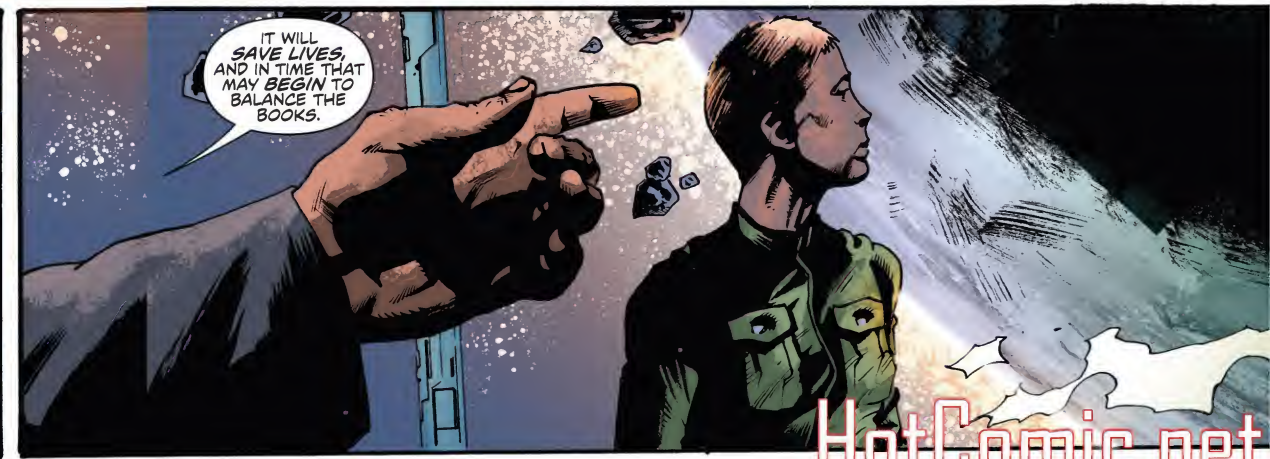
NOT THE UNIMAGINABLE DOLLAR VALUE OF THAT XENOTECH TROPHY.



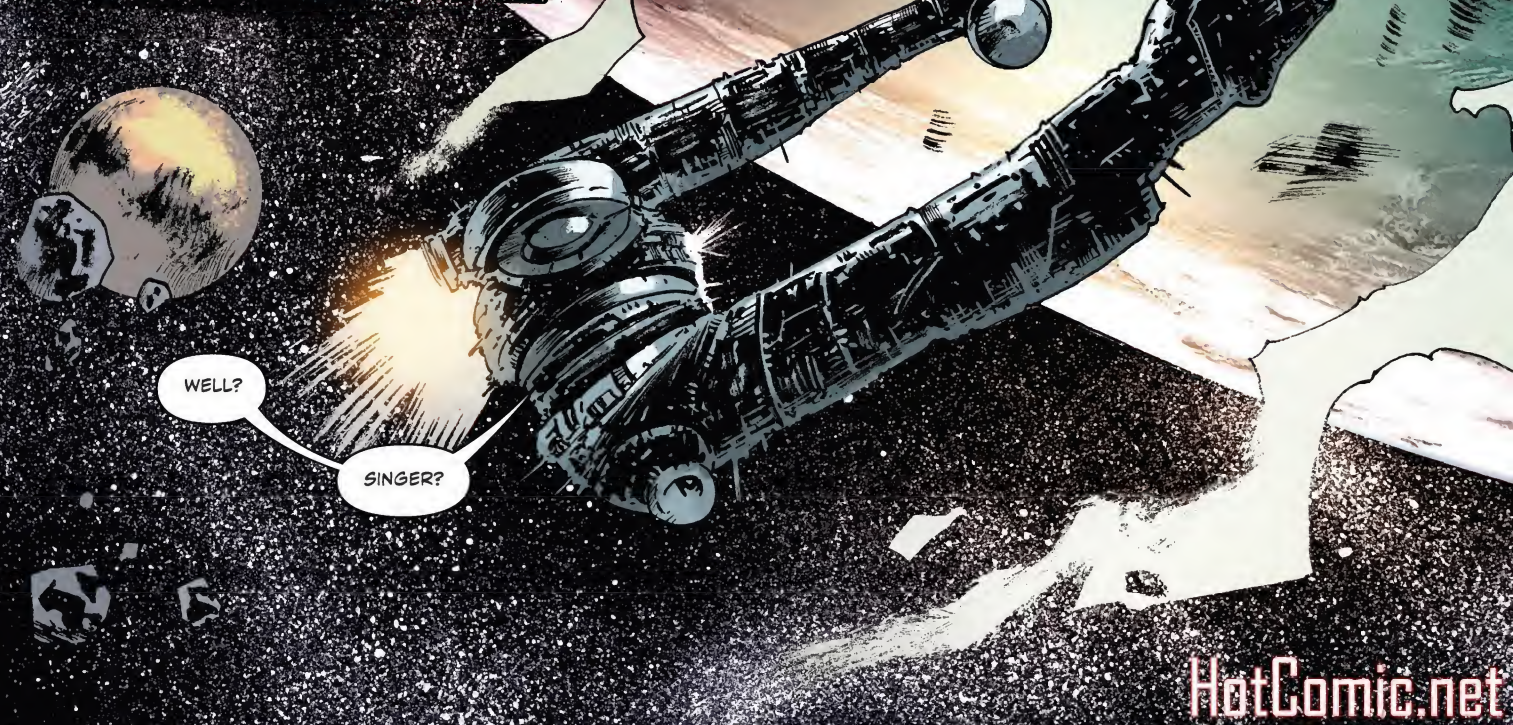
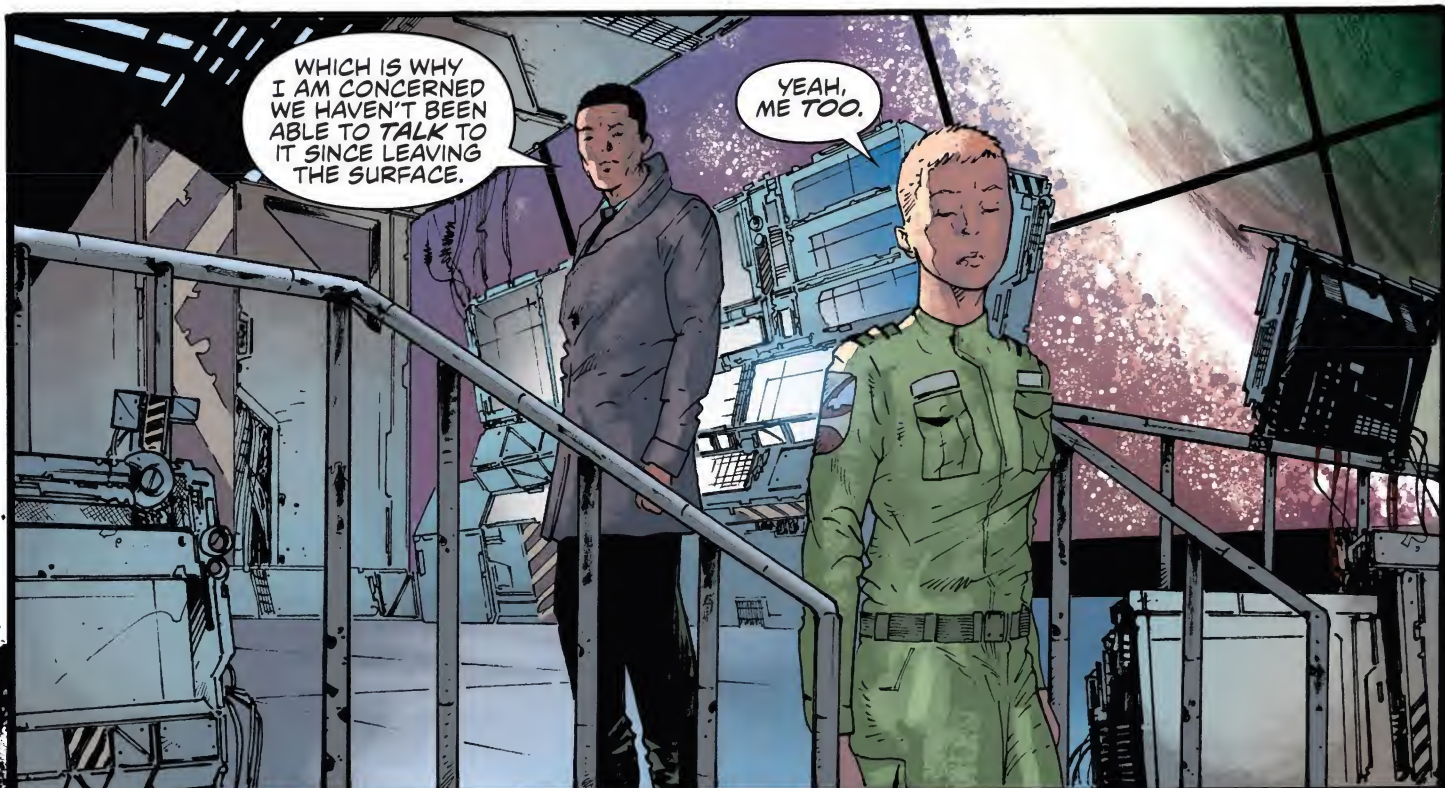
LIVES WERE LOST RECOVERING THAT VESSEL, CAPTAIN, AND I MOURN THEM. I'M NOT HEARTLESS. I SAW PEOPLE DIE.

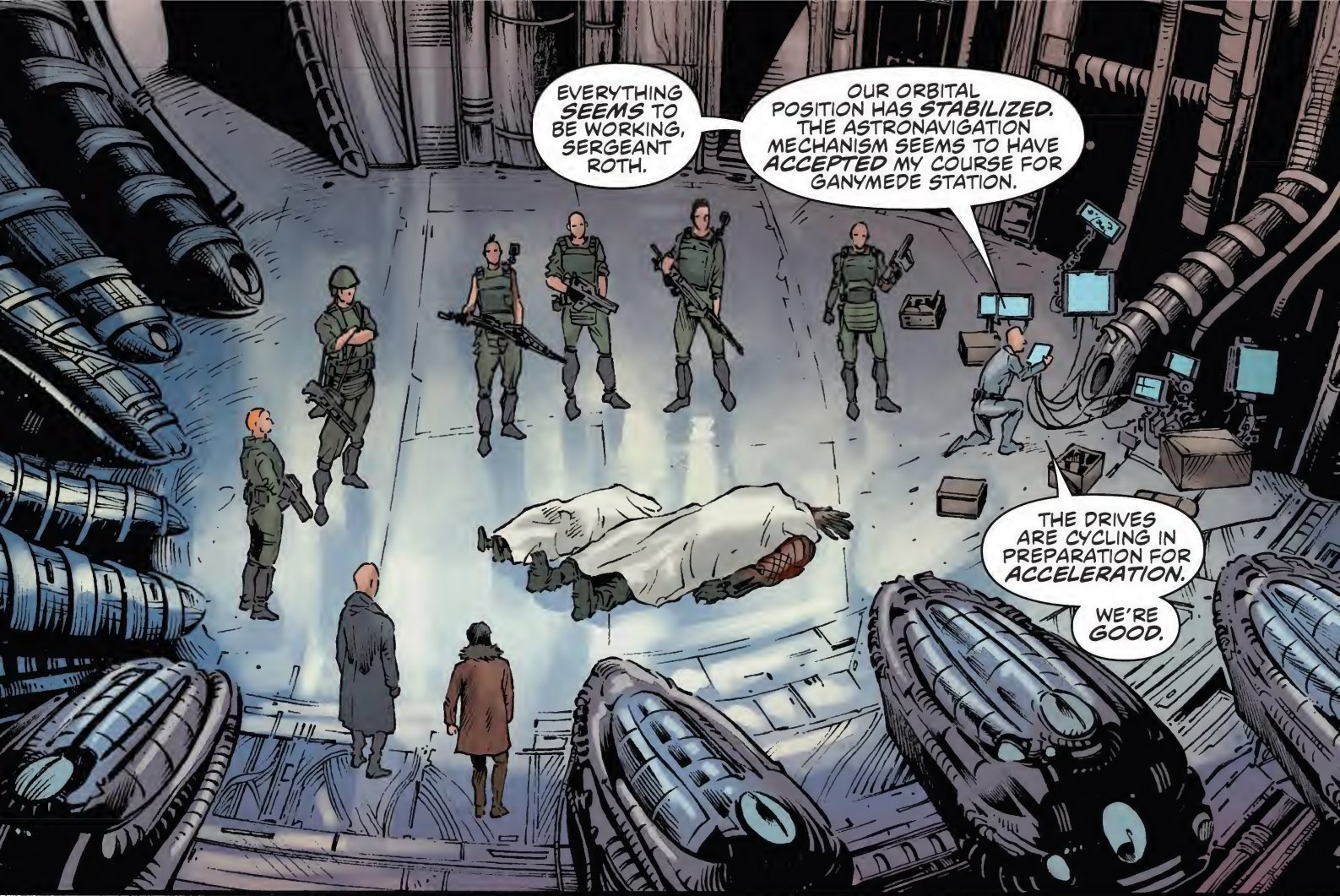
MY PEOPLE.

THEN CLING TO THAT, CAPTAIN, BECAUSE IT IS OUR CONSOLATION. TECHNOLOGIES RECOVERED FROM THAT SHIP WILL UNDOUBTEDLY ADVANCE MANKIND'S QUALITY OF LIFE.



IT WILL SAVE LIVES, AND IN TIME THAT MAY BEGIN TO BALANCE THE BOOKS.





EVERYTHING SEEMS TO BE WORKING, SERGEANT ROTH.

OUR ORBITAL POSITION HAS STABILIZED. THE ASTRONAVIGATION MECHANISM SEEMS TO HAVE ACCEPTED MY COURSE FOR GANYMEDE STATION.

THE DRIVES ARE CYCLING IN PREPARATION FOR ACCELERATION.

WE'RE GOOD.



EXCEPT... NO COMMS, SINGER.

WELL, THERE'S THAT.

RIGHT FROM THE START, THIS VESSEL HAS SCREWED OUR SYSTEMS EXTENSIVELY. OUR SENSORS DIDN'T EVEN READ IT.

NOW THAT ITS MAIN SYSTEMS ARE ON-LINE, THEIR OUTPUT IS PRESUMABLY BLOCKING ALL CONVENTIONAL COMMUNICATION.



DAMN, DON'T THIS THING HAVE NO RADIO?

WE'LL JUST SING SONGS ALL THE WAY HOME, FREEBS.

"NINETY-NINE BOTTLES OF BEER" AND ALL THAT SH--

FREEBODY'S GOT A POINT.

DAMN RIGHT I DO.

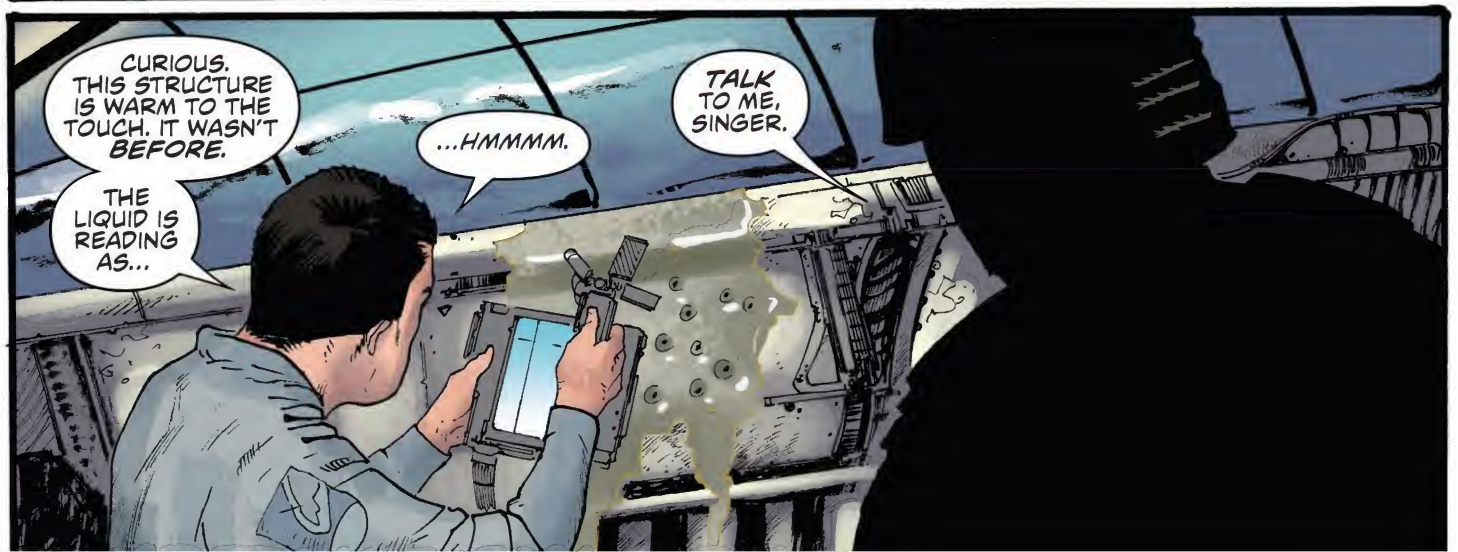
DON'T THIS THING HAVE NO DAMN RADIO, SINGER?

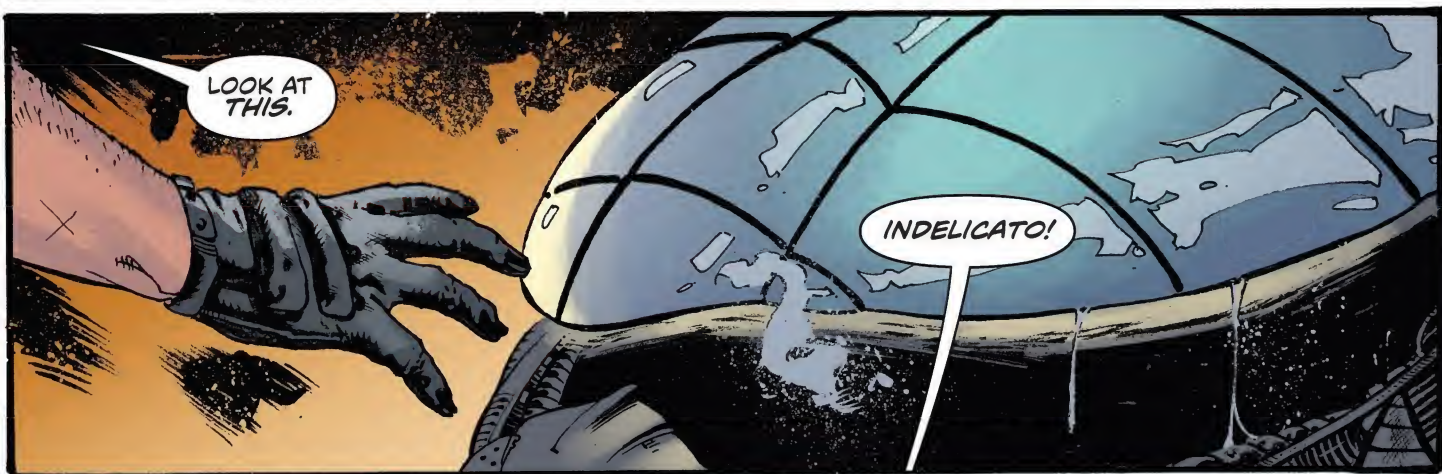


IT'S GOT NAV, DRIVES, ENVIRONMENTAL.

NO COMMS?









JESUS
HOLY
GOD.

WHAT
THE HELL
ARE YOU?

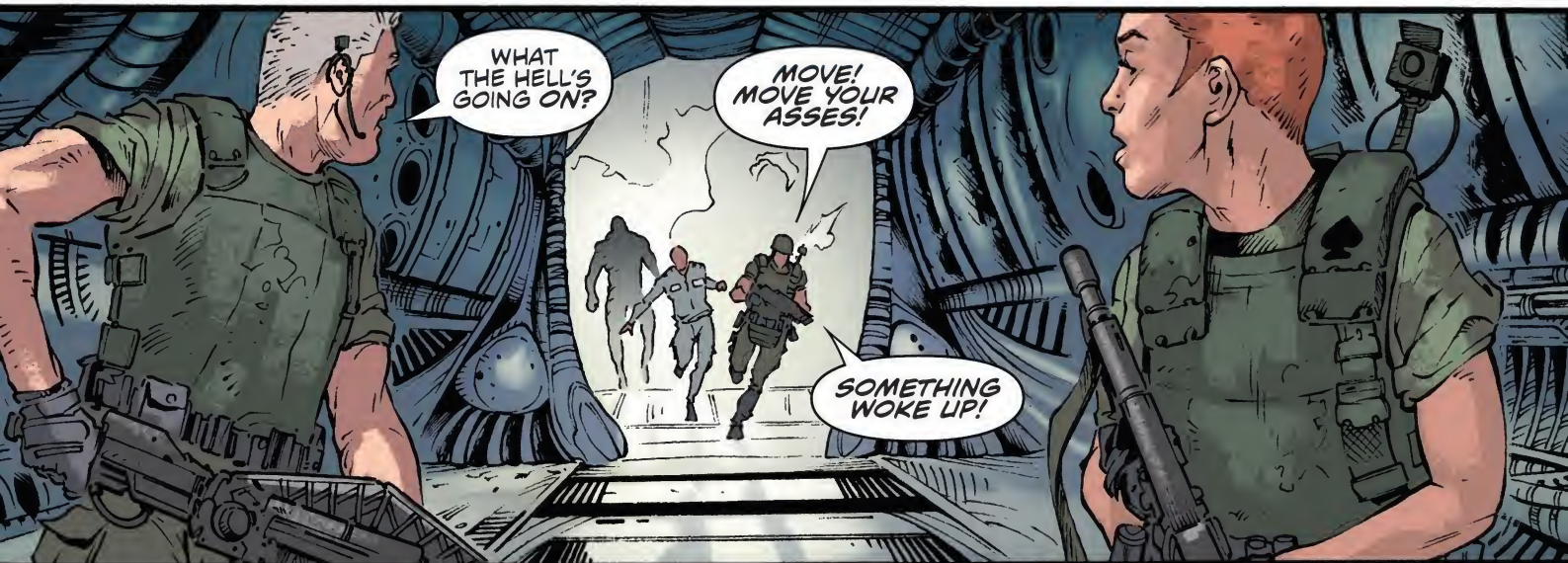
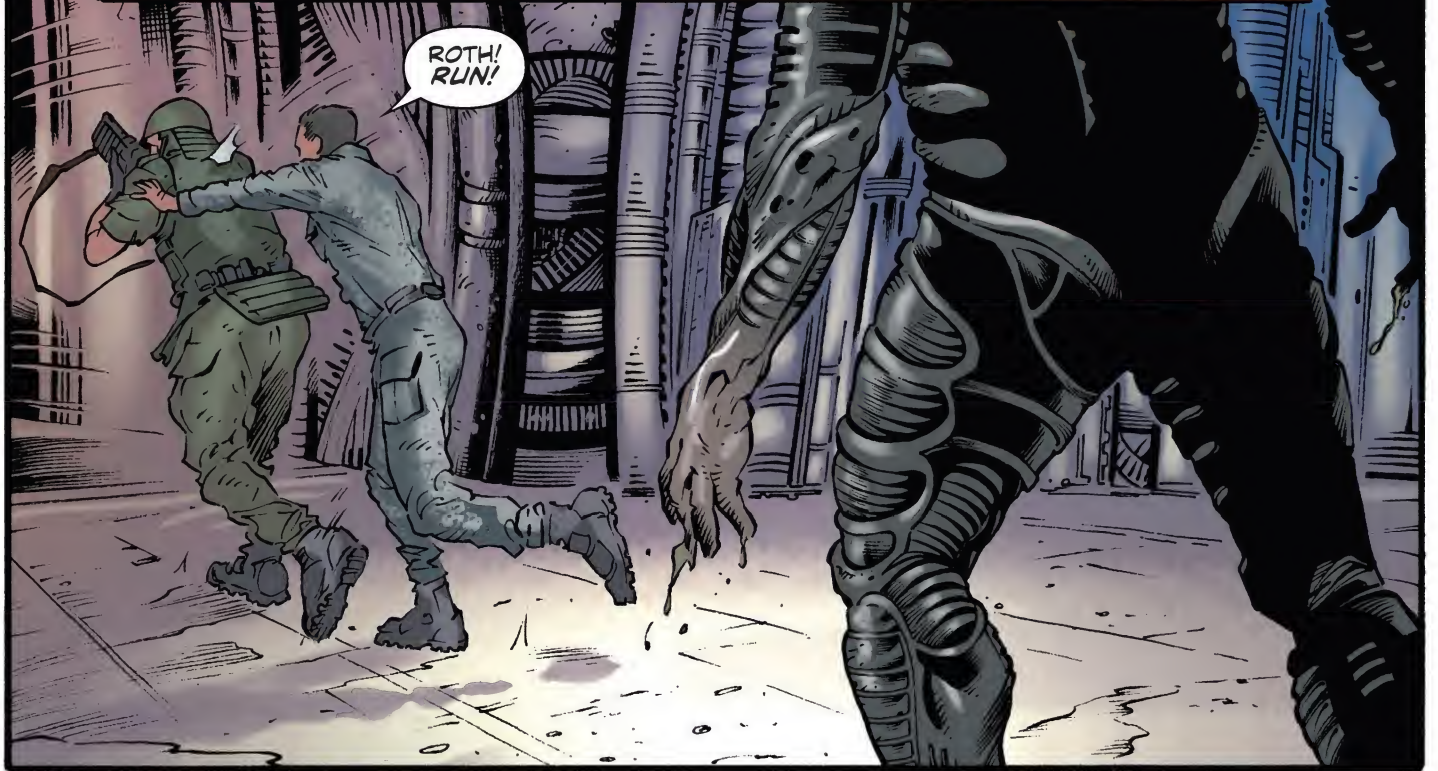
INDELICATO!

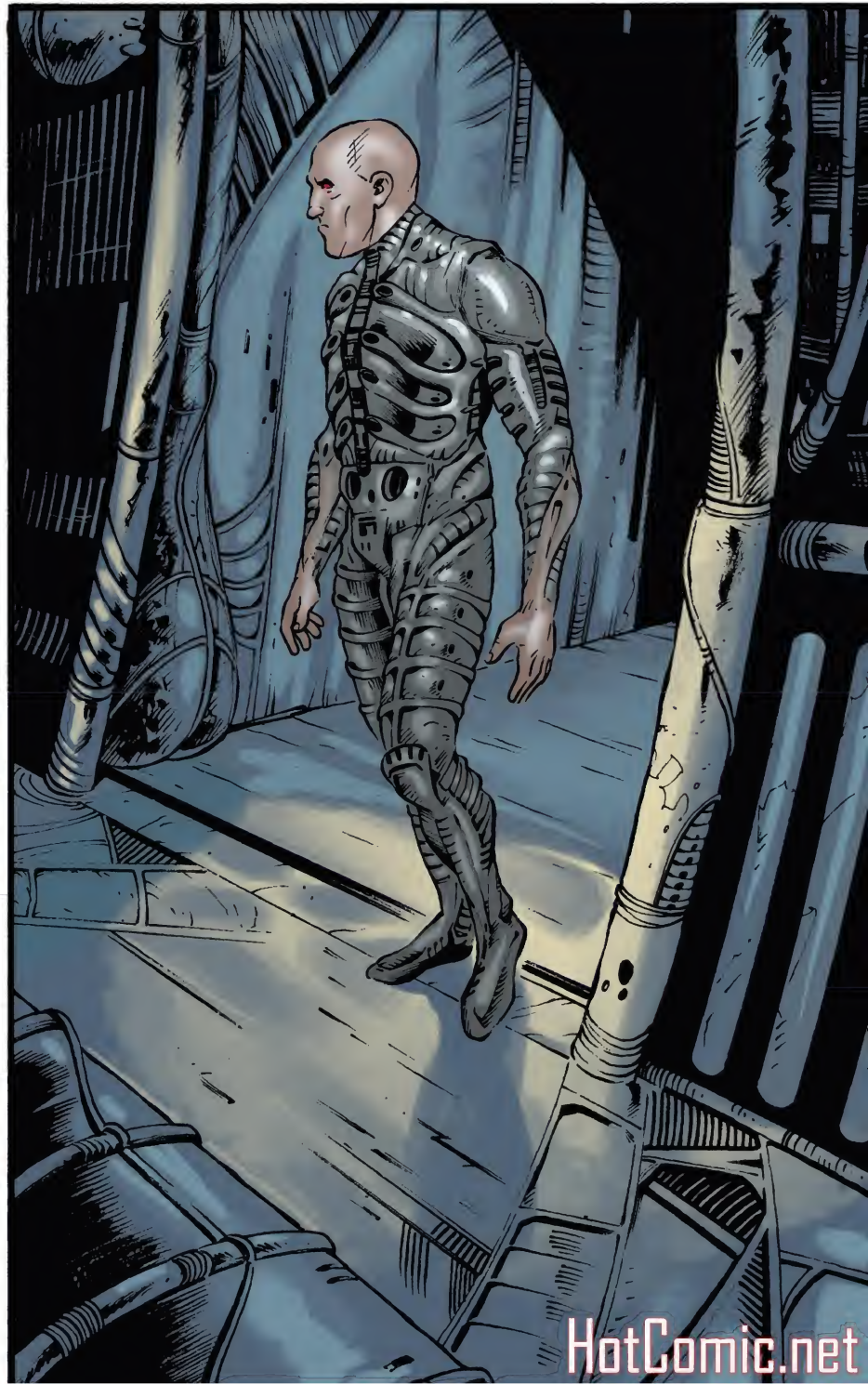
ROTH,
WAIT. THIS
COULD BE THE
SHIP'S PILOT.
ITS MAKER.

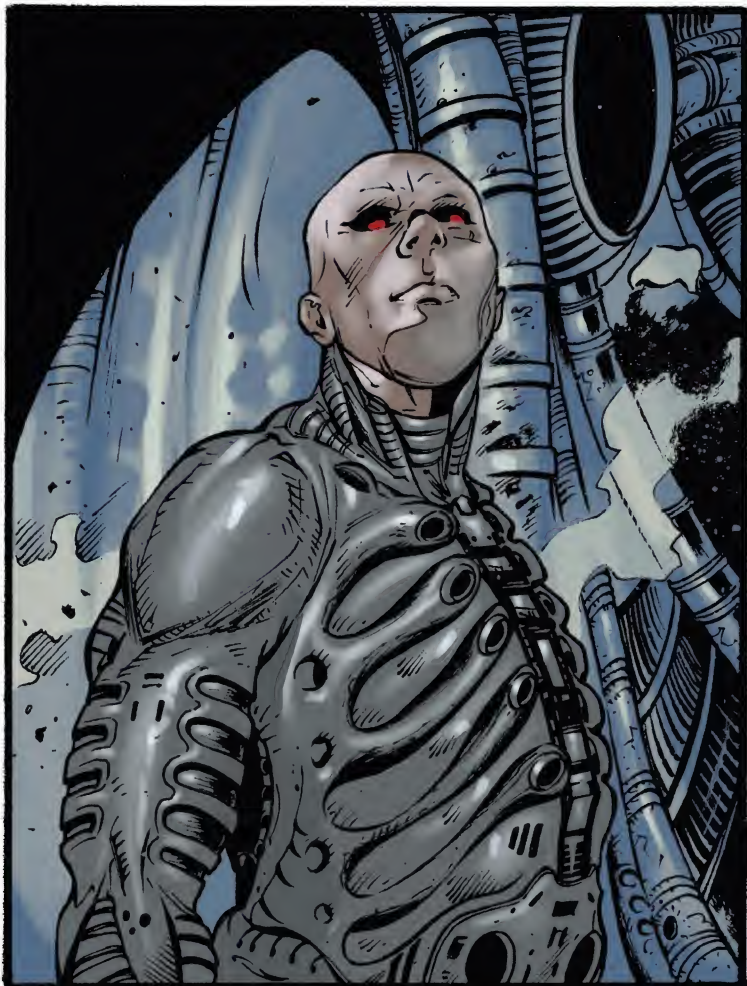
THIS IS AN
EXTRAORDINARY
FIRST CONTACT
OPPORTUNITY.

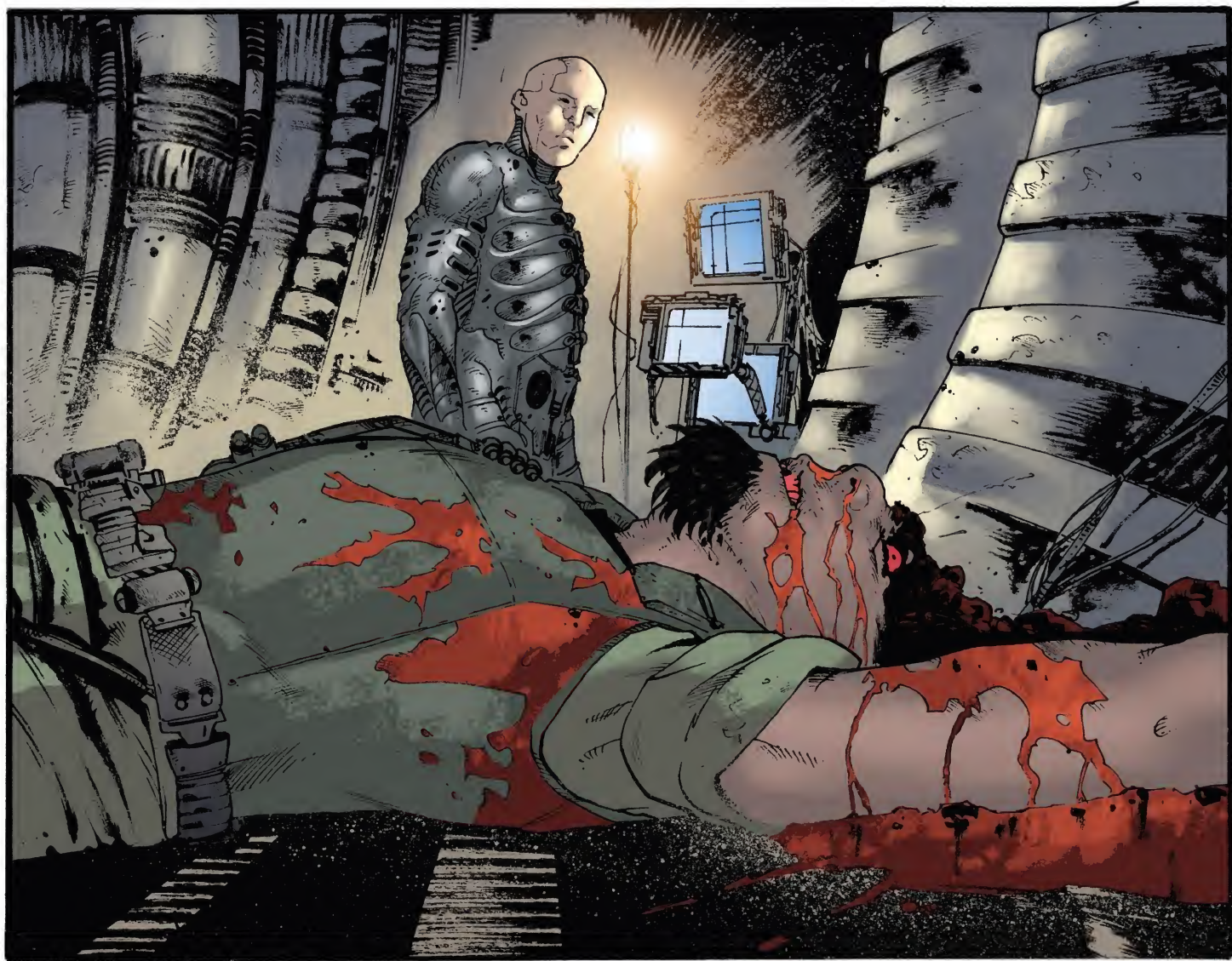
HEY, USCM.
WE COME IN
PEACE, YO?

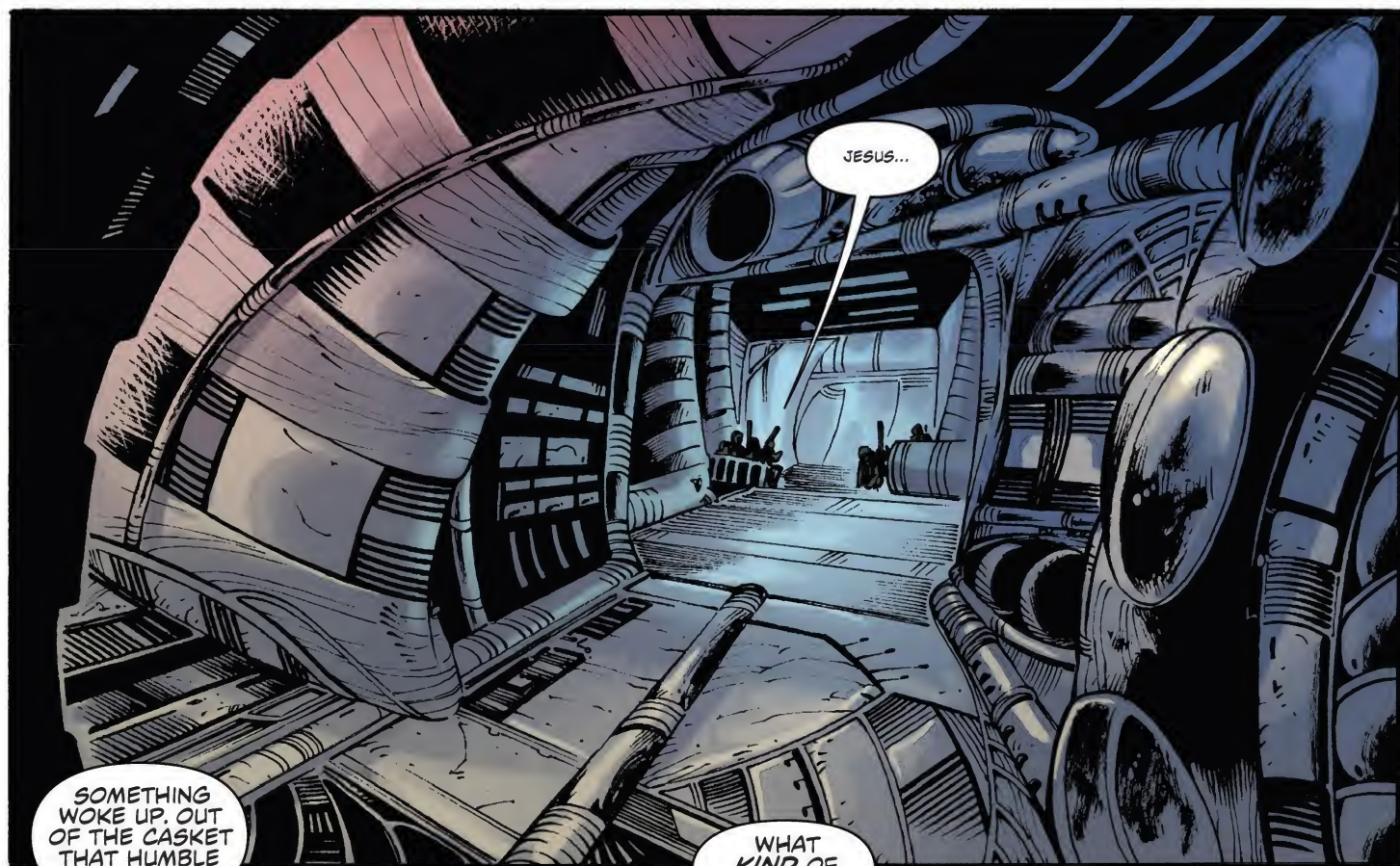












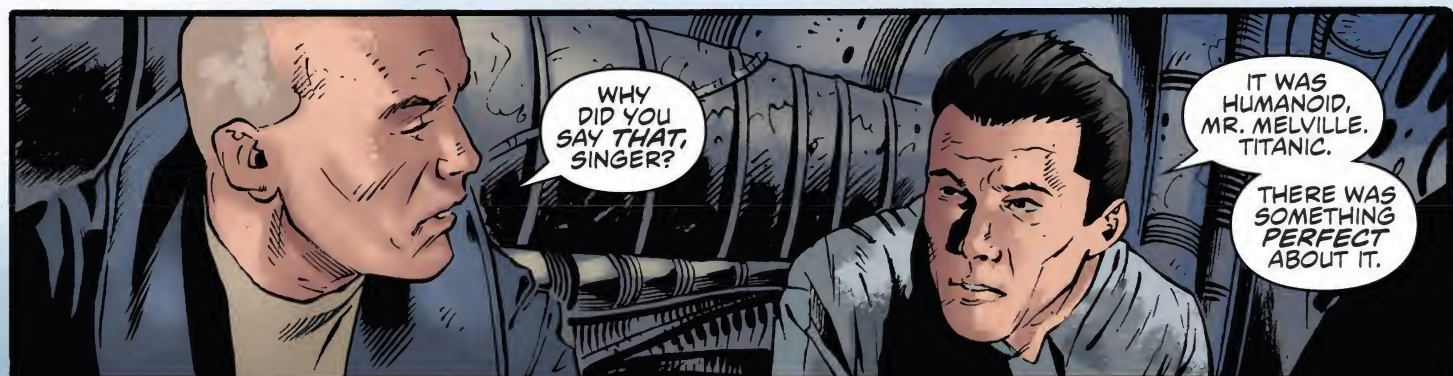
SOMETHING
WOKE UP. OUT
OF THE CASKET
THAT HUMBLE
BLITZED.

JESUS...

WHAT
KIND OF
SOMETHING?



SOMETHING
BIG...LIKE A
GOD.



WHY
DID YOU
SAY THAT,
SINGER?

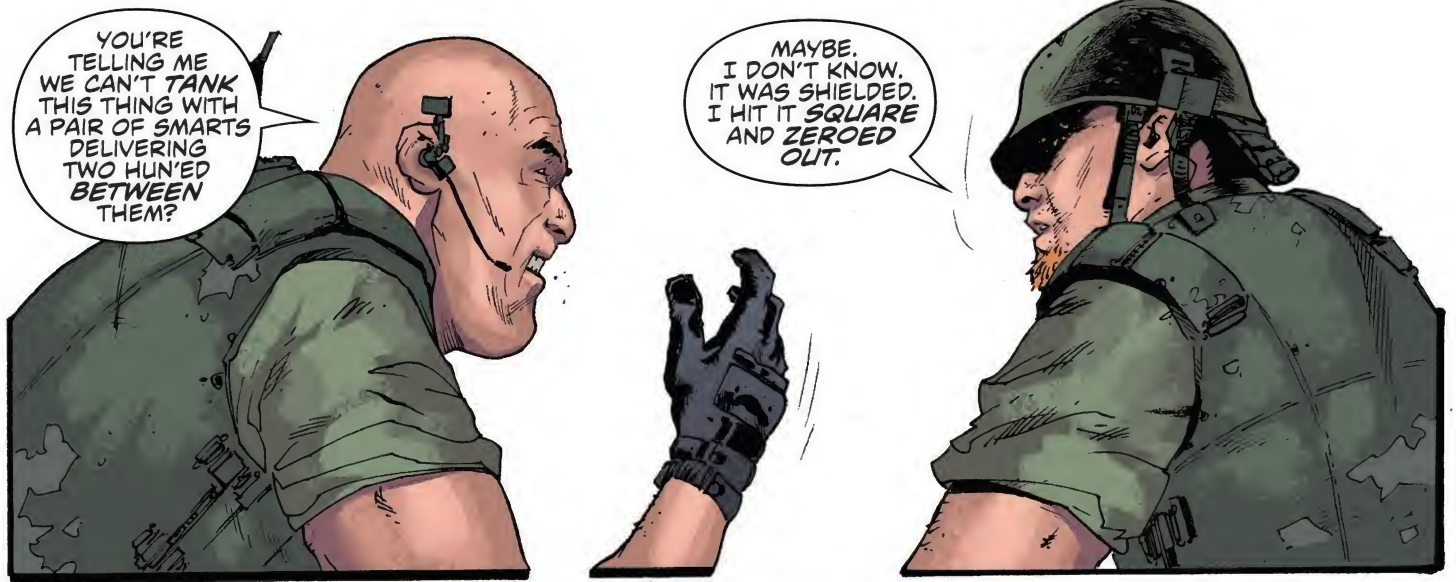
IT WAS
HUMANOID,
MR. MELVILLE.
TITANIC.

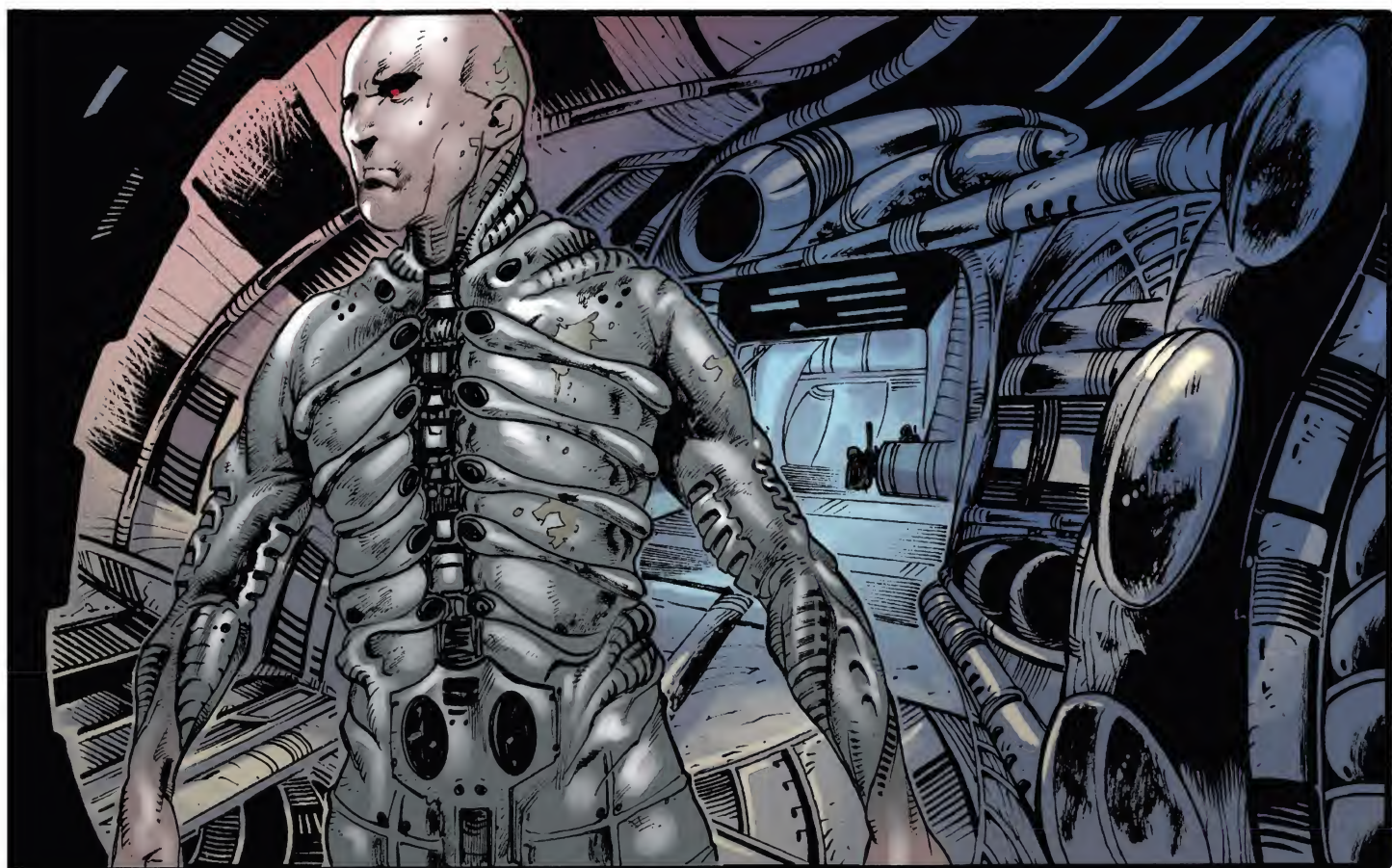
THERE WAS
SOMETHING
PERFECT
ABOUT IT.



I SAW
IT. SCARIEST
DAMN SHIT I'VE
EVER SEEN.









CAPTAIN?

CAPTAIN!

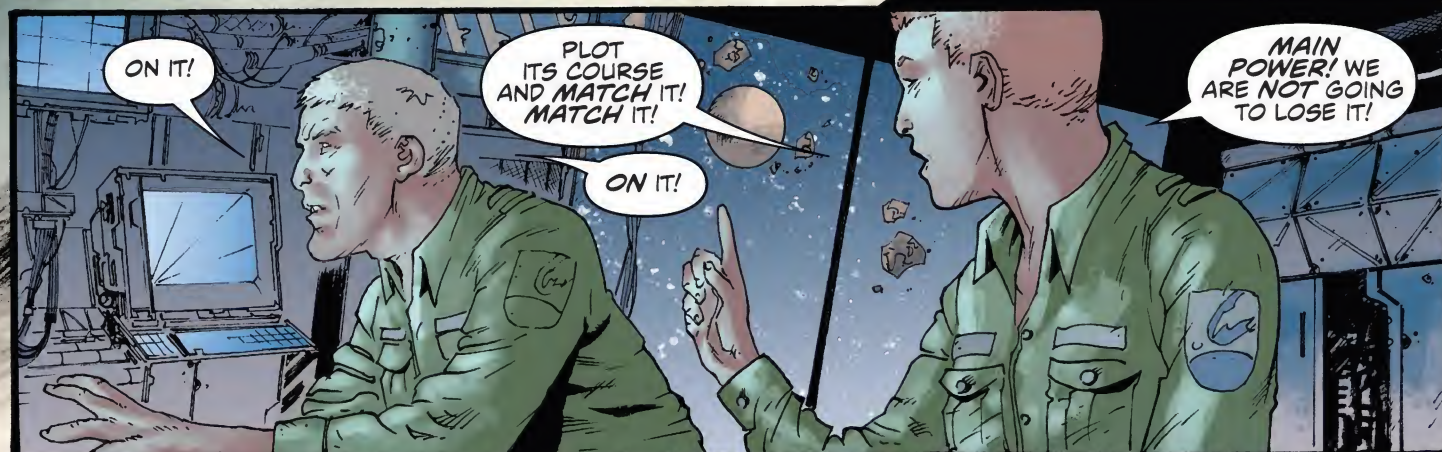
IT'S
MOVING
AWAY! IT'S
MOVING AWAY
ULTRA
FAST!

COURSE?

CALCULATING...

SHIT!
NOT GANYMEDE
STATION!

IT'S NOT
HEADING TOWARD
THE FRONTIER! IT'S
HEADING OUT!



NEXT: A WORLD OF FIRE AND STONE!

LIFE AND DEATH

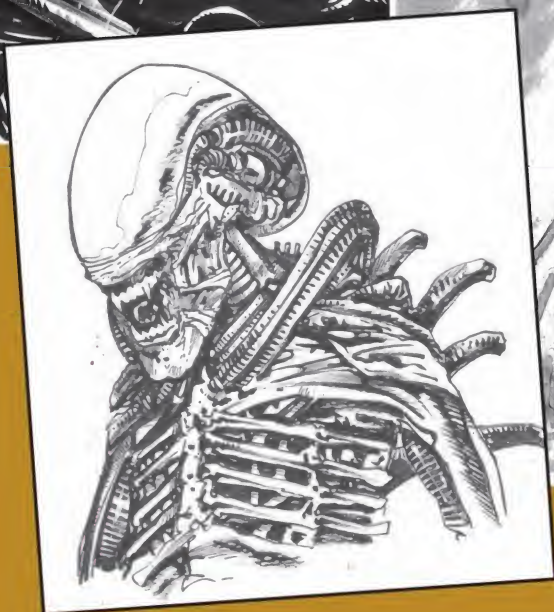
PROMETHEUS™

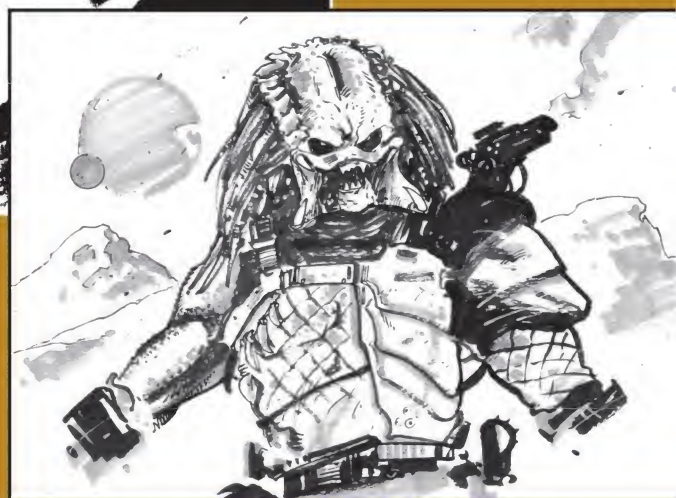
One of the “necessary evils” in producing a story cycle like *Life and Death* is bringing in a new artist every so many issues in order to meet the production schedule. So, even while Brian Thies was working on *Predator: Life and Death* #2, Andrea Mutti was beginning to draw the issue you hold in your hands, and writer Dan Abnett was preparing to write the *Aliens* chapter.

This kind of overlap leads to some interesting opportunities—such as when Dan realized that a nameless marine who was part of Sgt. Roth’s team from the *Predator* chapter was required to step up and take on a speaking role (Wearing) in the *Prometheus* segment. As Andrea was the one who would have to draw this character first, it fell to him to design Wearing—supplying Brian with this basic drawing (along with drawings of the character from completed pages) so that Brian could draw her earlier appearances. That’s teamwork.



And, while waiting for his first script to arrive, Andrea occupied himself with sketches of some of the characters he would be drawing . . .





On sale July 13!

LIFE AND DEATH
PROMETHEUS™
#2

L I F E A N D D E A T H
P R O M E T H E U S TM

#1 OF 4

SCRIPT **DAN ABNETT**

ART **ANDREA MUTTI**

COLORS **RAIN BEREDO**

LETTERING **MICHAEL HEISLER**

COVER **SACHIN TENG**

LIFE AND DEATH PROMETHEUS™

#1 OF 4

SCRIPT **DAN ABNETT**

ART **ANDREA MUTTI**

COLORS **RAIN BEREDO**

LETTERING **MICHAEL HEISLER**

COVER ART **DAVE DORMAN**



This issue we hark back to the layout of August 1993's *Dark Horse Presents* #77 — designed by Cary Grazzini, who has been associated with Dark Horse almost as long as cover artist Dave Dorman. Dave has painted covers for *Aliens*, *Predator*, *AVP*, and now *Prometheus*!





MINUTEMEN

Bluntman